

1. A speech processing method, comprising the steps of:
operating a first device to receive speech;
transmitting the received speech from the first device to a remote speech processing facility via the Internet;
performing a speech recognition operation on said speech at the remote speech processing facility; and
performing an action based on the outcome of the speech recognition operation.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of performing an action includes:

transmitting information generated from said speech recognition operation via the Internet.

3. The method of claim 2,
wherein said information generated from said
speech recognition operation is information indicating at
least some of the recognized content of said speech.

4. The method of claim 2,
wherein said step of performing an action
includes:
retrieving from memory a telephone number
associated with a name which was recognized in said
speech; and

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7 bridging said telephone call and said
8 additional telephone call.

3 receiving via the Internet said telephone
4 number where the human being who was the source of speech
5 corresponding to said speech data can be contacted.

1 11. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of
2 performing an action includes:

1 12. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of
2 performing an action includes:

3 transmitting information generated from said
4 speech recognition operation to a device via the
5 Internet.

1 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step
2 of:

3 operating said device to fill out at least a
4 portion of a form based on the information generated from
5 said speech recognition operation.

1 14. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of
2 performing an action includes:

3 controlling a telephony device as a function of
4 recognized speech.

1 15. The method of claim 15, wherein the telephony device
2 is coupled to the Internet and a telephone line; and

3 wherein the telephony device is controlled to
4 perform a dialing operation as a function of recognized
5 speech.

1 16. A speech processing method, the method comprising
2 the steps of:

3 operating a first device to receive speech;
4 operating the first device to perform a speech
5 recognition operation on said received speech using a
6 first vocabulary including words; and

7 when the first device fails to recognize any
8 words in the first vocabulary in said received speech,
9 performing the step of:

10 transmitting digital speech data via the
11 Internet to a remote speech processing facility capable
12 of performing a speech recognition operation using a

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1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the second
2 vocabulary is larger than the first vocabulary.

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1 19. The method of claim 15, further comprising:
2 when the first device recognizes a word
3 representing a name with which a telephone number is
4 associated, the first device:
5 initiating a telephone call to said telephone
6 number.

1 20. The method of claim 15, the method further
2 comprising the steps of:
3 performing a feature vector extraction
4 operation on said received speech; and
5 including the extracted speech feature vectors
6 in said speech data.

1 21. The method of claim 20, further comprising the step
2 of:
3 including a digital recording of said received
4 speech in said speech data.

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1 27. A speech processing facility, comprising:
2 means for receiving speech data transmitted
3 over the Internet;
4 a speech recognizer for performing a speech
5 recognition operation on the received speech data; and
6 means for performing an action based on the
7 results of the speech recognition operation performed
8 using the received speech information.

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4         a dialer for dialing a telephone number
5     associated with a recognized name.

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3 call bridging circuitry for bridging a
4 telephone call initiated by the dialer dialing a
5 telephone call with another telephone call.

3 a memory device including speech recognition models
4 of names and telephone numbers associated with the
5 modeled names.